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# BOROUGH

## OF

# MALMESBURY

1963

# BOROUGH OF MALMESBURY

THE

# A N N U A L  R E P O R T

of the

# M E D I C A L  O F F I C E R  O F  H E A L T H

and

# P U B L I C  H E A L T H  I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st. December, 1963

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

### (a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B. Ch.,D.P.H.
5, High Street, Chippenham.

Tel: Chippenham 2821 Extn. 49.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and the two Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

### (b) PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

E.H. Holroyd, Cert R.S.I. Meat & Food Inspector's Cert.

(to 25 Mar 63).

who combined the duties with that of Borough Surveyor.

J. STIRLING, Cert R.S.A.(Scot).,Meat & Food Inspector's Cert.

(From 1 Jun 63)

### (c) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

### (d) PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The General Purposes Committee of the Council deals with all matters pertaining to Public Health.

-o-o-o--o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Malmesbury Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1963 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the report are required by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Comments on the various statistical tables will be found in the substance of the report. A report by Mr. Stirling on certain aspects concerning environmental public health is included.

On subsequent pages, comment will be found on the state of the public health and a somewhat detailed report and digest on the administrative difficulties which have arisen both during the year under review and previously.

My thanks are due to Mr. Weston, Mr. Stirling and the staff of the Council for their co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD

Medical Officer of Health.

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The health of the community has been satisfactory during the year; the birth rate was high and although the death rate was slightly higher than in 1962, nearly 50% of the deaths occurred in the age group 75 and over.

Apart from a small outbreak of Measles, little infectious disease was notified.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year, but there was some increase in the number of notifications of this disease. The need for the provision of good housing in the prevention and eradication of tuberculosis from the community is stressed.

It is apparent therefore that the state of the public health has not occasioned any serious anxiety during 1963. Nevertheless, this fortunate situation can only be preserved, inter alia, by a high degree of immunisation of the child population and the public are urged to make full use of the facilities available. At present, it is estimated that only 54% of children have been protected against Poliomyelitis; the percentage of children protected against Diphtheria is relatively high however.

Important factors contributing to a sound public health, are regular, systematic and thorough inspections in the Borough by your Health Inspector, with particular reference to the production, clean handling and distribution of food, and the provision of adequate housing and slum clearance by the Council.

The various Ministries of the Central Government issue at regular intervals, legislation pertaining to public health for action by local authorities without regard to establishment. When an Officer holds multiple appointments, such as Surveyor and Health Inspector, the duties imposed upon him become unsupportable, and, however willing, he finds it difficult, if not impossible to meet his obligations to his own satisfaction and that of the Council.

The following extracts from previous reports, including annual reports to the Council are relevant to this aspect of public health administration and give some indication of the problem.

| Date | Detail. |
|---|---|
| 2 Apr 54 | M.O.H. reported to G.P.Committee recommending Additional Sanitary Inspector. |
| 31 May 54 | G.P. Committee "Unable to recommend appointment of Additional Sanitary Inspector". |
| A. Report 50. | "No house to house inspections under Housing Act made during year" (extract from Mr. Holroyd's report) |
| A. Report 51. | ditto |
| A. Report 52 | ditto |
| A. Report 53 | "It has only been possible to carry out a minimum of the routine work of the department because of my other duties" (extract from Mr.Holroyd's report) |
| A. Report 53. | "Circular issued by Ministry of Housing & Local Government stresses that L.A. should now take up as a matter of urgency, the campaign of Slum Clearance which the war interrupted. This is a matter which will require careful thought and planning during the forthcoming year". (page 9 M.O.H.'s report) |

| Date | Detail. |
|---|---|
| A.Report 53 | "Attention is drawn to the issue of new legislation and that this will add to the already heavy commitments of Mr. Holroyd".(Page 2 M.O.H. report) |
| A. Report 54 | "No house to house inspections under Housing Acts made during year" (extract from Mr. Holroyd's report). |
| A. Report 54 | "The attention of the Council is directed to new legislation which became operative during 1954 and which will greatly add to the duties of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector"(Page 2 M.O.H. report). |
| A. Report 55 | Page 7 gives list of new legislation approved during the year "The administration of this particular legislation will entail increased sanitary supervision" (Page 7 M.O.H. report). |
| A. Report 57 | "As much public health work has been carried out as my other duties will permit, and I must emphasise that much has, of necessity, been left undone" (Page 11 Mr. Holroyd's report). |
| A. Report 58 | "I regret it has not been possible to give more attention to the public health duties owing to the call of other work on my time. Roytine duties have suffered" (Page 10 Mr. Holroyd's report). |
| A. Report 58. | Page 4 M.O.H. stated "The establishment of small Local District Authorities does not enable a Council or its Officers, however willing and conscientious, to deal with the formidable array of legislation as they would wish. This fact is particularly evident when one Officer of the Authority combines in his appointment the duties of Public Health Inspector, Borough Surveyor, Water Engineer and Shops Inspector, and financial considerations preclude the appointment of additional staff". |
| A. Report 60. (Extract from Mr. Holroyd's report). | "I feel I must again draw attention to the fact that much of the routine public health work has not been carried out due to the amount of time taken up by my other duties as Surveyor and to the amount of this work which seems to increase from year to year" |
| Medical Officer of Health report to General Purposes Committe dated 29 Aug 63 (final paragraph) | "In view of the recommendation I made to the General Purposes Committee at the meeting held on the 4th. June, 1963 on the Council's Housing Programme and suggested Clearance Areas and the large amount of public health administration and surveying involved, I recommend that an Additional Public Health Inspector in Grade APT 111, qualified as an Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, be appointed as soon as possible". |

It was particularly unfortunate that from 1955, to the date of his retirement on 25 Mar 63, the Council's Surveyor and Health Inspector, was frequently absent from duty on account of ill health, particularly towards the end of his service; in consequence from December, 1962 to 1st. June, 1963, the date of Mr. Stirling's appointment, the Council was without the services of its Surveyor and Health Inspector. To meet this difficulty, as an interim measure, it was arranged for meat inspections to be made by a Veterinary Officer, and the public health staff of the Malmesbury Rural District Council, assisted by taking the necessary milk samples.

The Council's housing programme has also suffered. The following report and appreciation of the situation was presented to the General Purposes Committee on the 4th. June, 1963.

"Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 - Section 1.

The Medical Officer of Health reported as follows:-

On the 5th. August, 1955, the Borough Council completed the requisite form of proposal as follows:-

Pt. 1. Total number of permanent dwellings in the Local Authority's area..... 847

Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing & Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936..... 30

11. Period in years which the Council thinks necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i).. 5 yrs

Part 111.

(ix) Number of houses (including those already compromised in demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936..... 30

The Ministry of Housing & Local Government approved the proposals of the Borough on the 26th. March, 1956.

2. Mr. Holroyd, then Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, in July, 1955, presented to the Council his estimate of the number of unfit houses within the Borough, a total of 94, and a total of 102 considered borderline.

3. Mr. Weston has supplied me with the following information on the action taken by the Council.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| St. Johns Street | No.43 | Closing Order. |
| Kingswall | No.13 | Improved with aid of Improvement Grant |
| Oxford Street | No.11. | Demolished |
| Burnivale | Nos.18,20,22 | Demolished. |
| Bristol Street | No.21 | Demolished. |
| | No.70 | Occupier rehoused, requires action under Sec. 16 Hsg.Act, 1957. |
| Harper's Lane | No.28,30. | Demolished. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Katifer Lane | No.1 | Demolished. |
| West Street | Nos.2,4,6 | Not inhabited. |
| | No. 18 | Occupier rehoused, should be dealt with under Sec.16-17 |
| | (see further comment below). | |
| St. Marys Street | No. 2 | Not inhabited |
| Burnham Road | No.2 | Closing Order |
| | Nos.10,12,14 & 16 | Demolished. |
| Abbey Row | No.23 | Demolished. |
| Gastons Road | Nos. 1 & 11 | Demolished. |

Total demolished.....15
" closing orders ..... 2
Occupier rehoused,requiring action Section 16..... 2
Void..... 4

It appears from this information that the Council has not attained its objective.

4. Since 1955, the condition of a number of the borderline cases must now warrant further consideration and it is a reasonable assumption that many of them will require re-assessment. It is my opinion that a vigorous and progressive housing programme should be commenced as soon as possible, with particular attention given to Katifer Lane,Horsefair, West Street areas, where Clearance Areas appear the most appropriate.

5. Individual Section 16 properties which are at present empty, because the occupier has been rehoused, should be dealt with as a matter of urgency otherwise they will become reservoirs of housing applications.

6. Mr. Weston has also forwarded to me the detail taken from Form P.13 (Housing) submitted to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government during the period 1954-1962.

Houses closed in pursuance of an Undertaking.....12
Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure..... 9
Unfit or defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal notices.....59

It is difficult to reconcile these statistics with the information given in paragraph 3".

Much remains to be done, and the Council is recommended once more to put into effect a planned and progressive housing programme, with particular reference to slum clearance and the demolition or closure of individual properties not capable of repair at reasonable cost.

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) . . . . . 227

Population . . . . . 2,610

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1963 according to the Rate Book) . . . . 869

Rateable Value . . . . . £88,836

Sum represented by the Penny Rate . . . . . £362.

## VITAL STATISTICS

| LIVE BIRTHS | Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 25 | 27 | 52 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | - | 3 |
| Total | 28 | 27 | 55 |

Crude Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . . 21.0 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . . 22.0 per 1000 of the population

Comparative Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 18.2 per 1000 of the population.

There were 12 more live births notified during 1963, making a total of fifty five, as compared with the total live births during 1962 (forty three). These additional live births has had the affect of increasing the crude birth rate by 4. 5 live births per 1000 of the population. The crude birth rate for 1962 was 16.5 per 1000 of the population.

### STILL BIRTHS

Only one still birth was notified during the year under review, as compared with three still births during 1962. The rate per 1000 total live and still births for 1963 is 17.9. The comparative rate for England & Wales is 17.3

### INFANT MORTALITY

Only one child, under the age of one year, died during the year under review. This infant died during its first 4 weeks of life. The infantile mortality rate, per 1000 live births is 18.0; the comparative rate for England & Wales is 20.9.

DEATHS

The following deaths were notified during 1963:-

| Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|
| 19 | 18 | 37 |

Crude Death Rate for the Borough . . . . . 14.1
per 1000 of the population
Adjusted death rate for the Borough , . . . . . 13.5
per 1000 of the population
Comparative rate for England & Wales . . . . . 12.2

The crude death rate for 1963 is slightly higher than the rate given for 1962 which was 13.4 per 1000 of the population.

Members of the armed forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate and crude death rate for the Borough are to be multiplied by "area comparability factors" given by the Registrar General. The statistics given in respect of birth and death rates have been corrected accordingly. The comparability factor for births has been given as 1.05 and 0.96 for deaths.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | Males | Females | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Other infective and parasitic diseases. | 1 | - | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 1 | - | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung,bronchus | 2 | - | 2 |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms. | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Coronary disease, angina | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Hypertension with heart disease | - | 2 | 2 |
| Other heart disease | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Other circulatory disease | - | 1 | 1 |
| Bronchitis | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | - | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Suicide | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| TOTAL ALL CAUSES. | 19 | 18 | 37 |

Deaths due to Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary disease collectively accounted for 45.9% of the total deaths notified during 1963.

48.6 percent of the total deaths notified were in respect of persons in the age group 75 years and over.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the first half of the year under review, a small outbreak of measles occurred; a total of thirty seven notifi-cations were received. A large proportion of these cases were in respect of children in the 5-9 year age group.

Two cases of Whooping Cough were also notified during the year.

In the quarter ending 31 March 1963, two cases of Meningococcal infection were notified and investigated. The patients concerned were both males, one aged 2 years and the other aged 3 years. There was no apparent connection between the two cases, and no secondary cases came to light.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Five cases of tuberculosis were notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1963. Three cases were suffering from the respiratory form of the disease and the remaining two cases were suffering from the non-pulmonary form of tuberculosis.

No deaths occurred during the year due to tuberculosis.

In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the town or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of tuberculosis were living in the town at the end of 1963.

| | Males | Females | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pulmonary | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| Non-Pulmonary | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Total | 13 | 8 | 21 |

## WATER SUPPLIES

The North Wilts Water Board is the responsible Authority for the production and distribution of water supplies within the Borough. The Water Board arranges both bacteriological and chemical examinations of the raw water and the Public Health Inspector takes samples of the treated water in supply to the public for bacteriological examination also. Close liaison is maintained between Officers of the Council and Officers of the Water Board and any deviations from normal are dealt with at once.

## Vaccination and Immunisation.

The Wiltshire County Council, as a Local Health Authority, is responsible for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children against certain infectious diseases. I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information.

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation.

| Year of birth | | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1954-1958 | 1949-1953 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Primary imms. completed during 1963 | Diph. | 26 | 34 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - |
| | Wh/c | 26 | 34 | 4 | - | - | - | - |
| | Tet. | 26 | 34 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - |
| Reinf.injects. administered during 1963. | Diph. | - | 2 | 27 | 9 | 5 | 19 | - |
| | Wh/c. | - | 1 | 14 | 9 | 3 | 4 | - |
| | Tet. | - | 2 | 27 | 9 | 4 | 13 | - |

### Vaccination against Smallpox.

| | Months. | | | | Years | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age Group. | 0-3 | 3-6 | 6-9 | 9-12 | 1 | 2-4 | 5-14 | 15 |
| Vaccinations | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | 8 |
| Revaccinations | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 8 |

### Immunisation against Poliomyelitis.

| Age Group | 2nd. inj. | 3rd inj. | 4th. inj. | 3 oral doses. | 3 oral after 2 injs. | 4th. oral after 2 injs + 1 oral. | 4th oral after 3 injs or 3 oral. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Children born in 1963 | - | - | - | 4 | - | - | - |
| Children born in 1962 | - | - | - | 34 | - | - | - |
| Children born in 1961 | - | - | - | 23 | - | - | - |
| Children & young persons born 1943-1960. | - | - | - | 34 | - | - | 49 |
| Young persons born 1933-1942 | - | - | - | 7 | - | - | - |
| Others | - | 1 | - | 13 | - | - | - |
| TOTALS:- | - | 1 | - | 115 | - | - | 49 |

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1963.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Borough of Malmesbury.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my first annual report, covering the work carried out in the public health department during the seven months of 1963 since taking up appointment on 1st. June, 1963.

The tables and statistics are set out in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their help and understanding during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

J. STIRLING.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Meat

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough, in which killings take place on six days weekly, including Sundays. Approximately ninety-five per-cent of the meat killed and dressed is sent out of the Borough. There is also one Bacon Factory in the Borough which closed in January, 1964 due to various difficulties experienced.

One hundred per-cent inspection of all animals killed including pigs at the Bacon Factory, has been maintained throughout the year. During the first five months of the year when my predecessor was ill and until my appointment on 1st. June, the local Veterinary Surgeon carried out all inspections. Except for four days at Conference, I carried out all inspections including the increased work created by the Meat Regulations which came into force on 1st, October and require more stringent inspection and stamping of all carcases to identify the local authority and the inspector. The new regulations also enable the local authority to levy charges on the slaughterhouse operators to offset extra labour charges. In order to relieve matters, the Council arranged that from 3rd. February, 1964, the local Veterinary Surgeons undertook inspection on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week.

Food Premises (Contd)

All food premises were visited during the year and apart from minor infringements, no breaches of the Food Hygiene Regulations came to light.

The five butcher's shops are all registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 for the manufacture and sale of sausages. In addition there is one other shop registered under this Section for the preparation of Chitterlings.

There are 22 premises from which ice cream is sold, and all are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act. All these premises sell a pre-wrapped produce, stored at a regular temperature by refrigeration. There are no premises in the Borough at which ice cream is made.

MILK.

Thers is one milk producer and two milk retailers in the Borough. Both dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and one dairy is also registered for the sale of Pasteurised milk. There are no pasteurisation plants in the Borough. The public health staff of the R.D.C. undertook additional sampling of the Borough's retailers to assist me during the initial period of my assumption of duty.

Bakehouses

There are no bakehouses in the Borough, and all the bread distributed is baked elsewhere.

Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrender notes were issued accordingly. Diseased meat and offal from the slaughter-house is collected and taken to Swindon for sterilisation in accordance with the provisions of the Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960; diseased meat and offal from the Bacon Factory is burnt in the factory boiler, and other condemned foodstuffs are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tinned. | Tinned Ham | 30 lbs. |
| | Corned Beef | 12 lbs. |
| | Minced Pork | 14 lbs. |
| | Jellied Veal | 4 |
| | Beef | 50 lbs |
| | Kidney | 8½ lbs. |
| | | 118½ lbs. |

Total weight surrendered: 1 cwt. 6½ lbs.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Contd)

Carcases and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| | Cattle excl. cows. | Cows. | Calves | Sheep Lambs. | Pigs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed | 2933 | 524 | 207 | 5912 | 8730 |
| Number inspected | 2933 | 524 | 207 | 5912 | 8730. |
| All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 320 | 201 | - | 1007 | 703 |
| Percwntage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci | 10.9% | 39.1% | 1.4% | 17.1% | 8.0% |

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Tuberculosis only

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Whole carcases condemned | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 4 | 17 | - | - | 41 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 0.13% | 3.2% | - | - | 5.0% |

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Cysticercosis

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 2 | 1 |

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Total weight of meat and offal condemned 16 tons. 2 cwts. 2 qrs. 17 lbs.

Food Premises

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grocers | 6 | Sweetshops | 5 |
| Greengrocers | 3 | Wet Fish Shops | 2 |
| Butchers | 5 | Fried Fish Shops | 2 |
| Small general shops | 13 | Cake Shops | 3 |
| cafes | 3 | Hotels serving meals to non-residents | 6 |

HOUSING.

At the end of the year there were approximately 40 applicants, who were either living or working in the Borough, on the waiting list for houses. These included four who had applied for old person's bungalows. 9 applications were received during the year.

Eight houses were under construction by private enterprise at the beginning of the year, eight were completed during the year and a further four under construction at the end of the year.

A tender was accepted during the year for 10x2 bedroomed houses and 4x3 bedroomed houses for slum clearance purposes. These are scheduled for completion in Sep 64. The Ministry has indicated that they approve in principal a further 20 houses on land already owned by the Council adjoining the present site and the swimming pool.

Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year | Nil |
| | (2) Number of families dwelling therein | Nil |
| | (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | Nil |
| (b) | Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | Nil |
| (c) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | Nil |
| | Number of persons concerned in such cases | Nil |
| (d) | Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected twice weekly and tipped at a new site that was brought into use during the previous year. This site is very near to the centre of the town, and strict precautions are taken to keep to a minimum any nuisance that may arise. A tracked bulldozer is used to spread and compact the refuse, and to cover it with earth. Regular treatment for rats and other pests is carried out.

During the abnormal winter conditions and aftermath, control of the tip was not so well maintained and numerous complaints were received. By July, however, tipping and burning was carried out to level off low lying ground in the surroundings of the sewage works. This enabled the town tip to be closed off during the remainder of the summer months.

Salvaged paper and cardboard are collected with the refuse, and a special collection is made twice monthly from business premises. Special arrangements - usually on a rechargeable basis are made for other scrap and rubbish.

The refuse collectors report on any premises that are without suitable dustbins and the householders are then requested to provide them.

The new sewage works came into operation at the end of March since when the volume of sewage treated has incresed. Few premises remain to be connected - one of these is a private slaughterhouse.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Visits and inspections made during 1963.

| | |
|---|---|
| Investigation of complaints | 40 |
| Food premises | 32 |
| Fish Shops | 2 |
| Butchers shops | 5 |
| Dairies | 12 |
| Ice cream premises | 14 |
| Restaurants | 8 |
| Slaughterhouse | 360 |
| Bacon Factory | 110 |
| New drainage work | 42 |
| Rat infestations | 6 |
| Moveable dwellings | 14 |
| | 645 |

One complaint of fleas in a modern flat revealed tiny fleas leaping off the floors in broad daylight and easily caught. None of the occupants appeared to be suffering from bites. There was a pet dog which appeared clean and healthy. Specimens sent to Bristol and Gloucester revealed them as cat fleas. No cat was kept but I think the dog must have trans ported them from a house the family visit where a cat is kept.

## Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| PREMISES | No. on Register. | Inspns. | No. of Written Notices. | Occupiers Prosecuted. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, are to be enforced by L.A. | 19 | 6 | - | - |
| 2. Factories not included in (i) in which sec. 7 is enforced by L.A. | 16 | 34 | - | - |
| 3. Other premises in which sec 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers premises) | 2 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 37 | 40 | - | - |

2. cases in which DEFECTS were found

| | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To HM Inspr. | By HM Inspr. |
| Want of cleanliness | 6 | 6 | - | - |
| Overcrowding | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable Temperature | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate Ventilation | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences. | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective nor separate for sexes | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL: | 6 | 6 | - | - |